

REMARKS

Upon entry of the Amendment submitted herewith, claims 32-47 are pending in the application.

The Notice to which this is a response indicated that the Amendment submitted on September 15, 2003 in response to the May 20, 2003 nonfinal Office Action was non-compliant because a complete listing of all the claims was not present; no specifics of the alleged deficiency were given. The only possible reason for issuing the Notice that Applicants were able to determine was the failure to list the status of claims 1-31, claims that were no longer being considered by the Examiner.

Applicants note that there appears to be some confusion regarding the status of most of these claims. In the May 20, 2003 Office Action it was indicated that claims 1-21 and 32-47 were pending, and that claims 1-21 stood withdrawn from consideration. In fact, at that time, claims 1-21 and 28-47 were pending, and claims 1-21 and 28-31 had been withdrawn. In any event, the present Amendment indicates that claims 1-21 and 28-31, as well as claims 22-27, are cancelled; this is the sole difference between said Amendment and that submitted September 15, 2003.

The Amendment herein is fully compliant. It is respectfully requested that it and the portion of Applicants' September 15, 2003 response not being resubmitted here be passed on to the Examiner for consideration on the merits.

No fee should be due in connection with this communication. However, should it be determined that a fee is required for any reason, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge it to Deposit Account No. 23-1703.

Dated: September 30, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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